J. ERIC DIETZ, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## For Immediate Release

August 9, 2005

## THIRTY-THREE COMPLETE FIREFIGHTER TRAINING OFFERED BY IDHS

Executive Director Dietz among Participants

**Indianapolis** – Firefighters from around Indiana gathered at the Purdue University Fire Department this past weekend to conclude a mandatory firefighter training course. The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS), Purdue Homeland Security Institute and Purdue University Fire Department jointly offered the course conducted over the past two weekends.

IDHS Executive Director, J. Eric Dietz, was among the 33 individuals who completed the four-day course. Participants in the course represented 21 fire departments and 18 counties from around Indiana. IDHS provided the training free of charge.

"Firefighters are true professionals dedicated to their jobs, their communities and their co-workers. My participation in this course only further enhanced my respect and admiration for the work firefighters do," said J. Eric Dietz, IDHS Executive Director. "IDHS wants to do all we can to offer them the training and tools they need to do the job they love. We are committed to supporting Indiana's firefighters and we intend to explore further ways we can do so."

The course included both classroom and hands-on training sessions. Participants covered instruction on fire behavior, ventilation techniques, forcible entry procedures, search and rescue in a smoke-filled building, utilization of self-contained breathing apparatus and fire streams.

"Firefighters are often on the front line of protecting our citizens and property," said Roger Johnson, State Fire Marshal and Director of IDHS' Fire and Building Safety Division. "The course conducted provides the basic training needed by all firefighters to enhance their ability to respond to and handle emergencies. It is just the beginning of a firefighter's commitment to the community they serve."

The Fire and Building Safety Division of IDHS is currently developing plans to deliver state sponsored fire training throughout Indiana. IDHS staff will use the course offered at Purdue to help determine what type of training to offer, what the administrative needs to support statewide training are, and how to best deliver training.

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Editor's Note: A list of participants and their departments is attached.

Media Contact: Pam Bright, Director, IDHS Public Information & Outreach 317.232.6632



## **IDHS Firefighter Training**

July 30-31 and August 6-7, 2005

Name County Department Allen Ryan Alvarez Monroeville Fire Department Dewayne Pirtle Carroll Flora Fire Department **Fulton** Aubbeenaubbee Township Fire Department Austin Bragg Jodi Shanks Grant Jonesboro Fire Department Nathan Neal Washington Township Volunteer Fire Department Grant J. Eric Dietz Marion Indiana Department of Homeland Security Robert Schick Montgomery Darlington Fire Department Green Township Fire Department Corey Geilker Morgan Glenn Donahue Newton Goodland Volunteer Fire Department James Folks Newton Goodland Volunteer Fire Department Nicholas McCann Newton Morocco Volunteer Fire Department Richard Stansu Newton Morocco Volunteer Fire Department Michael Skinner Porter Union Fire Rescue Andrew Patten Porter Union Fire Rescue Edward Nation, Jr. Black Township Fire & Rescue Posey Thomas Leman Pulaski Francesville Volunteer Fire Department Christopher Allen Putnam Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department Brian Darby Putnam Madison Township Volunteer Fire Department Tina Olquin Randolph Modoc Volunteer Fire Department Joseph J. Wade Tippecanoe Battleground Fire Department Gary Stevenson Tippecanoe Battleground Fire Department Josh Synesael Tippecanoe Lauramie Township Fire Department Heather Synesael Tippecanoe Lauramie Township Fire Department Joseph Reuzenaar Tippecanoe Tippecanoe Emergency Management Agency Bonita Newnum Vermillion Hillsdale Community Fire Department Vermillion Scott Newnum Hillsdale Community Fire Department **Brad Nichols** Warrick Ohio Township Fire Department Warrick Jeremy Mitchell Ohio Township Fire Department James Ausmus Wayne Abington Fire & Rescue **Kyle Hughes** White Burnettsville Volunteer Fire Department

Ryan Clothier Burnettsville Volunteer Fire Department James Delashmit White Chalmers Community Volunteer Fire Department

> Counties with red boxes were represented at the firefighter training course at Purdue University.

White

White

Tom Curtis



Burnettsville Volunteer Fire Department